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54 Orthodontic bracket with archwire slot liner.

57 An orthodontic bracket (120), such as a bracket made of ceramic material, is provided with a liner (126) that enhances sliding mechanics between the bracket and an archwire. A portion of the liner projects beyond the bracket body (122) and optionally includes an occlusal, gingival or lingual section (148, 150) that extends over a mesial or distal side (134, 135) of the bracket body. A bottom surface of the liner (126) is located a distance from a bottom wall of a channel receiving the liner, and the distance optionally varies along the length of the archwire slot in order to urge the attached tooth to rotate as needed about its long axis. The liner is bonded to the bracket body in such a manner that the bracket body is thereafter held by the liner in compression.

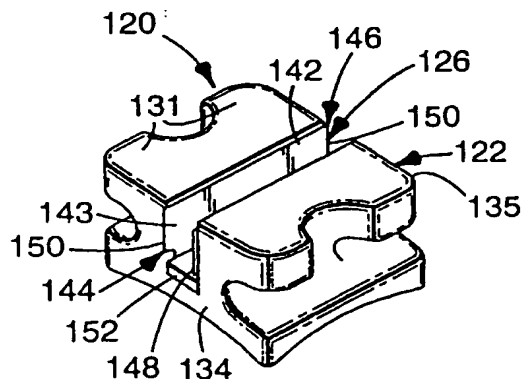


Fig. 3

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. CL.5)
D,A	US-A-4 299 569 (FRANTZ) * column 4, line 8 - line 14; figures 7-9 *	1	A61C7/12
D,A	US-A-4 302 532 (WALLSHEIN) * the whole document * -----	4,10,16	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL.5)
			A61C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 27 February 1995	Examiner Vanrunxt, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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